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September 2, 1966

Dr. Robert F. Thorne
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
1500 North College Ave.
Claremont, California

Dear Dr. Thorne:

You're practically a commuter between here and the East Coast, aren't you. Having always been troubled with itchy feet, that sounds great to me. There's never any rush on these things we send to you.

Unfortunately, we hit a drouth in Vegas and didn't collect anything green. Did get a few specimens of copper and nickel, but scarcely enough to overload the plane.

At least this crop of specimens seems to be mostly American, with no Portuguese that we know of.

No. 1: From Hayward, Alameda Co. - "Please identify this plant which grows abundantly in the hills surrounding Livermore - Altitude of about 3000 ft."

Cercocarpus betuloides

No. 2: From Hollister - "Enclosed is from a large tree, the only one of its kind in our town. It is green, then turns all rust orange and then yellow with the different seasons. Can you tell me the name of it?"

Quercus - *Cryptomeria japonica* D.D.M.

No. 3: From Upland - "Can you tell us the name of the enclosed. We have 130 feet of this vine in front. Some of the runners get to be 20 feet in length. Our driveway is 12 feet wide and I have trained the vine on an arbor over the drive. It is the only thing of its kind in the neighborhood. Leaves turn a reddish hue before dropping in the fall."

Pentstemonis gummifolia

No. 4: From Walnut Creek, Contra Costa Co. - "These blossoms and leaves are from a rampant growing vine, semi-deciduous to evergreen depending on the winter exposure. The fruit is a long pod about 3/4" thick or less - green fading to near white as it ripens. Seeds are polished brown. Someone suggested tomato. Might be a species of solanum but the milkiness when the flower is broken from the stem seems to rule that out."

Araucaria arborescens

Hope you have a nice Labor Day weekend.

Sincerely,
CALIFORNIA FARMER
Marjorie McAlinden
Marjorie McAlinden

Enc.